



MEETING THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

2004

Biography

Tony Comberiate

Associate Director/Program Manager for Explorers

Mr. Anthony Comberiate is the Associate Director/Program Manager for Explorers at the Goddard Space Flight Center. In this position he has overall responsibilities for the implementation of Middle Size Explorers (MIDEX), Small Explorers (SMEX), and associated Missions of Opportunity for the Office of Space Sciences. Explorers are cross-theme, competitive, Principal Investigator (PI) mode missions, proposed in response to Announcements of Opportunity, which offer frequent flight opportunities for superior science at a relatively low cost. Tony has managed the Explorers Program since July 2000 and is a member of the Senior Executive Service of the U.S. Government.

Tony was born in Washington D.C., and graduated with a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1972, and an MS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1975. After graduating from college, Tony served in the U.S. Army, where he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal in 1974.

Tony joined NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in August 1974 as a compatibility test engineer for the Networks Directorate. He has an extensive background in satellite communications and has written numerous technical papers on that subject. He left the Compatibility Test Section Head job in 1987 to become the Systems manager for the TDRS continuation program. After a number of management jobs on TDRS, he became the Deputy project Manager (DPM) in 1993, the acting Project Manager in 1995, and the Project Manager in 1997. During Tony's years with TDRS, the project successfully launched TDRS 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and TDRS H. He managed TDRS H,I,J from its early formulation days, through its definition, design, and development. As a result of the project's success, Tony was invited to give numerous lectures on performance based contracting to NASA, OMB, DOD, and industry.

Tony has received numerous awards including the NASA Medal for Outstanding Leadership in August 2001, and the GSFC Exceptional Achievement Award in June 1990. Tony and his wife Janet live in Clarksville, Maryland, with the younger three of their seven children.



NASA Project Management Conference